

Short Bio January 2007

Christopher A. Kojm

Chris Kojm served as a Senior Advisor to the Iraq Study Group. Since 2004 he has been a Visiting Professor at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton. He was the President of the 9/11 Public Discourse Project (2004-05) and former Deputy Director of the 9/11 Commission (2003-2004). Prior to that, he served from 1998-2003 as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence Policy and Coordination in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research. He served previously in the Congress on the staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, under Ranking Member Lee Hamilton as Deputy Director of the Democratic staff (1997-98), as Coordinator for Regional Issues (1993-1997) and under Chairman Hamilton on the Europe and Middle East subcommittee staff (1984-92). From 1979-1984, he was a writer and editor with the Foreign Policy Association in New York City. He has a Masters in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University (1979) and an A.B. from Harvard College (1977).

## **Samina Ahmed – South Asia Project Director**

**Samina Ahmed joined the International Crisis Group as Project Director for Afghanistan and Pakistan from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. She previously worked at the Institute of Regional Studies, Islamabad and the Pakistan Institute of International Affairs, Karachi. Dr. Ahmed has a Master's in International Relations and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Australian National University, Canberra. She worked as a visiting Fellow at Oxford University, a Research Researcher at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute and as a Visiting Scholar at the Cooperative Monitoring Center, Sandia National Laboratories. Dr. Ahmed is the author of several book chapters and many articles in academic journals and the print media.**

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### **Samina Ahmed**

DOB: 26 June 1952

Nationality: Pakistani

Languages: Urdu, Punjabi

#### **EDUCATION:**

Ph.D. (Political Science), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (1990).

Dissertation: *The Military and Foreign Policy in Pakistan: With Special Reference to the Soviet Union.*

MA. (International Relations), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (1982).

MA. (International Relations), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan (1974).

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs,  
John F. Kennedy School of Government,  
Harvard University.  
Research Fellow: January 1999-2001.

The Asia Foundation,  
International Relations Consultant: February-December 1998.

Institute of Regional Studies,  
Senior Research Analyst: October 1988 to June 1997.  
Research Officer: November 1982-November 1983.

Pakistan Institute of International Affairs,  
Research Officer: November 1976-November 1982.

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The International Crisis Group received during this fiscal year through December 18, 2006, the last quarter of funds under USAID Grant GDG-G-00-03-00005-00 which provided \$500,000 per year over three years which began December 18, 2003 and concluded December 19, 2006 as a contribution to the Crisis Group research, analysis and publication of reports in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.

The grant was made by the USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance.

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## EXPERT PROFILE

**CRAIG COHEN**

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, AND FELLOW, POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT,  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAM

**ASSOCIATED RESEARCH FOCUS:**

Post-Conflict Reconstruction

**ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS:**CSIS Commission on Smart Power  
International Security Program**EXPERTISE:**Conflict analysis, state collapse, post-  
conflict reconstruction, peace  
building, international development**CONTACT:**

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[List of Publications»](#)[List of In the News»](#)

Craig Cohen is a fellow in the International Security Program and Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project at CSIS. He is currently directing research on how to improve U.S. and UN capacity to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to conflict and collapse in large aid recipients—with a focus on Pakistan. Previously, he managed a working group on reconstruction and stabilization operations and authored the report, *Measuring Progress in Reconstruction and Stabilization Operations* (U.S. Institute of Peace, April 2006). Prior to joining CSIS, he worked with the UN and nongovernmental organizations in Rwanda, Azerbaijan, Malawi, and the former Yugoslavia. Mr. Cohen received a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and an undergraduate degree from Duke University.

[List of Craig Cohen's publications](#)**CSIS PUBLICATIONS BY CRAIG COHEN**[Measuring Progress in Stabilization and Reconstruction 04/12/2006](#)**CRAIG COHEN IN THE NEWS**

Rick Barton, a member of the CSIS Smart Power Commission, and Craig Cohen, its co-director, were interviewed by Washington Post Radio about the recently launched commission. *03/21/2007*

Craig Cohen and Derek Chollet, both fellows at CSIS, published an op-ed for "Think Tank Town," an online feature of *The Washington Post*. "A Push for a Pakistan Plan." *01/12/2007*

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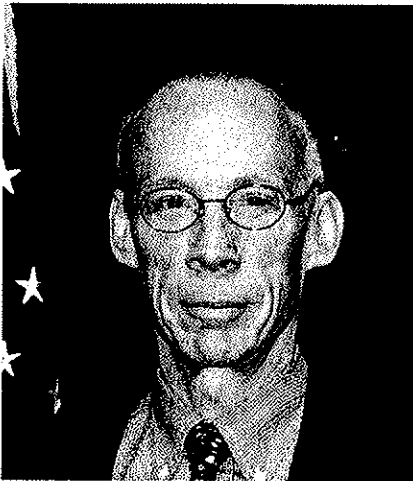


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# BIOGRAPHY

## Mark S. Ward

Senior Deputy Assistant  
Administrator  
Asia and the Near East



Mark S. Ward is the Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Asia and Near East, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and a Career Minister in the Senior Foreign Service.

He has principal responsibility for South Asia: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Between January and August 2005, he was also chair of the Agency's tsunami task force, and since December 2005, chaired the Agency's South Asia earthquake task force. Currently, Ward chairs USAID's Lebanon Reconstruction task force.

Ward was the 2006 winner of the Service to America Medal for international affairs.

Ward has been with USAID for nearly 20 years. His most recent overseas post was in Pakistan as the Mission Director, serving from July 2002 through December 2003. Prior to that, he was the Director of USAID's Office of Procurement in Washington, D.C.

Ward joined the Foreign Service in 1986 and has served in Pakistan, Egypt, the Philippines, and Russia.

He is a native of San Francisco, and received his Bachelor of Arts in political science and Juris Doctor from the University of California at Berkeley.

He was headmaster of a girl's high school in rural Kenya before law school, and practiced law in Washington for four years before joining USAID.

Ward currently resides in Northern Virginia with his wife, Maryruth Vollstedt, and their sons, Matthew and Peter.



## Biography of John Anthony Gastright, Jr.

Bureau of South Asian Affairs  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs



On March 21, 2005, Mr. John A. Gastright joined the Bureau of South Asian Affairs as a Deputy Assistant Secretary. Mr. Gastright will focus primarily on Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. Prior to this appointment, he was the Director of House Affairs, Bureau of Legislative Affairs at the Department of State, managing and coordinating House of Representatives related legislative and budgetary initiatives impacting the Department and the Administration including appropriations, authorizations and other foreign affairs-related measures.

His State Department service also includes a brief term as the Acting Coordinator for Afghanistan from June 2004–August 2004. Mr. Gastright first joined the Department of State as the Special Assistant to Deputy Secretary of State Richard L. Armitage, where he served as the staff specialist for South Asia from March 2003–June 2004.

Prior to his service with the Department of State, he served on Capitol Hill as the Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Jack Kingston April 2002–March 2003, and Projects Director and Military Assistant to U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond, January 1995–April 2002. He previously served as a Naval Officer from October 1988–December 1994; and a City of Charleston, South Carolina Police Officer from May 1987–October 1988.

Mr. Gastright resides in Croom, Maryland. He has been awarded degrees from the U.S. Naval War College, Master of Arts, National Security Studies; The Catholic University of America, Master of Arts, Congressional Studies; and the Citadel, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science.

He is married and has a son (age 4) and daughter (age 2).

Released on April 27, 2005